



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New York District

NEWS RELEASE

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conduct further tests at day care center

New York— The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announced today it will conduct further tests for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) at buildings 151 and 165 at the former Raritan Arsenal, Edison, NJ.

Tests of contaminated groundwater, whose plume migrated beneath these buildings, reveals a potential pathway for vapors from VOCs to pose a hazard to individuals in these buildings. Air sampling performed in building 151 confirmed low concentrations of VOCs in the indoor air. Samplings at building 165 are inconclusive.

Tenants in building 165 include the Peppermint Tree Nursery (day care center), Rockwell Automation, AMAX Engineering, The Home News and Tribune, Celsis International, and Mackay Communications. WorldPac Corp. occupies building 151.

According to Col. John B. O'Dowd, New York District Engineer for the Corps, "Further testing is warranted based on our preliminary findings. Of particular concern is the welfare of children in the day care center in building 165. As part of the additional investigation, the Corps will determine a method to remediate any problems that might exist. If the property owner agrees, the Corps will begin its pilot tests at the day care center to ensure that children are not exposed to any hazards."

Further investigation of the VOCs in the indoor air is required to determine the source of the VOCs, evaluate vapor intrusion pathways, evaluate the potential hazard to human health, and determine appropriate remedial measures. This investigation will include soil, air, and groundwater sampling in and around the buildings.

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